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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Tatsumi WATANABE et al.

Attn: BOX PCT

Serial No. NEW

Attorney Docket No. 2004-1018A

Filed July 1, 2004

IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS AND IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD [Corresponding to PCT/JP03/01450 Filed February 12, 2003]

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced U.S. patent application please amend the application as follows:

